

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUAYAQ 00222 070501Z

15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-02 EB-07 COA-01 SCA-01 H-01

INR-07 DLOS-03 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 INRE-00 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00

/058 W

----- 062755

O 070420Z FEB 75 ZFF4

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3665

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUAYAQUIL 222

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, PLOS, EC US

SUBJ: SEIZURE OF US TUNA VESSELS: AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO
SALINAS

REF: QUITO 840

1. ON FEB. 6, AMBASSADOR BREWSTER ACCOMPANIED BY NAVAL ATTACHE RALPH AND CG DEWITT, TRAVELLED TO SALINAS FOR A MEETING WITH CAPTAINS OF SEIZED TUNA VESSELS AND BOAT OWNERS' REPRESENTATIVES. 2-HOUR WORKING LUNCHEON ATTENDED BY CAPTAINS AND OTHER OFFICERS OF SEVEN US TUNA VESSELS AS WELL AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS OF ZAPATA OCEAN RESOURCES AND PRESIDENT OF STARKIST INTERNATIONAL. IN OPENING REMARKS, AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HIS SERIOUS CONCERN, AND THAT OF

USG, FOR SITUATION OF OFFICERS AND MEN OF SEIZED TUNA BOATS; REVIEWED ACTIONS TAKEN IN QUITO AND WASHINGTON TO EXPEDITE RELEASE OF VESSELS; AND ASKED FOR COMMENTS, OPINIONS, AND QUESTIONS FROM THOSE PRESENT. AN OPEN, FRANK, AND SOMETIMES HEATED DIALOGUE ENSUED.

2. IT OBVIOUS AND UNDERSTANDABLE THAT BOAT CAPTAINS EARNESTLY WISH AN IMMEDIATE TERMINATION OF DETENTION SO THEY MAY RETURN TO FISHING OPERATIONS. THE LONGER THE PERIOD OF INFORMED INACTIVITY,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GUAYAQ 00222 070501Z

THE GREATER THE FEELINGS OF FRUSTRATION. AS FRUSTRATION GROWS SO

DOES THE TEMPTATION TO INITIATE ACTION ON THEIR OWN, SUCH AS
ATTEMPTING TO DEPART SALINAS OR TO CONTAMINATE THE CATCH ON BOARD
IF THREATENED WITH PHYSICAL CONFISCATION OF FISH. ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR

PROVIDED DETAILED EXPLANATION OF STEPS TAKEN TO SECURE EARLY
DEPARTURE, HE WAS UNABLE PROVIDE THE ONE THING SOUGHT BY BOAT
CAPTAINS -- AN IMMEDIATE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

3. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO EFFECT DEPARTURE OF SEIZED
VESSELS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. IN INTERIM, WE WILL SEEK TO
HAVE NUMBER OF GUARDS ON VESSELS REDUCED AND BAN ON RADIO
OPERATIONS LIFTED.
DEWITT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TUNA, SHIP DETENTION, FISHING BOATS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GUAYAQ00222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750045-0163
From: GUAYAQUIL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750263/aaaacesp.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 QUITO 840
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEIZURE OF US TUNA VESSELS: AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO SALINAS
TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, PLOS, EC, US, (BREWSTER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006